



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WSDA hosts Seattle forum on connecting local farms to school

Olympia – A free forum, “Connecting Local Farms and Schools: Addressing Child Nutrition and Obesity issues in King County K-12 Schools” will be held Thursday, May 13, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. at 6556 35th Ave. NE, Seattle and includes lunch.

The forum will discuss how communities can address issues of youth obesity and nutrition by making locally grown produce available to King County students. It is sponsored by the Washington State Department of Agriculture’s (WSDA) Small Farm and Direct Marketing program, WSU King County Extension and PCC Natural Markets.

Speakers will talk about how Farm-to-School projects are created and showcase successful projects in Washington and other states. School administrators, food service and nutrition professionals, farmers, and parents will have the opportunity to network with others interested in creating local programs.

“Our experience has shown that when schools offer fresh, locally grown produce, students are eager to add them to their plate,” said Kelli Sanger, WSDA direct marketing specialist. “A Farm-to-School program has been very successful in the Olympia school district. It is helping to prepare those students for a lifetime of healthy eating.”

Funding is provided by a grant from the USDA Risk Management Agency. For more information or to register, contact Sanger at (360) 902-2057 or by e-mail, ksanger@agr.wa.gov.

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